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Washington LABOR MARKET

Washington State
Employment Security
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In cooperation with the
Employment and Training
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Highlights

More Give Than Take

Washington's economy moved sideways in November much like the pattern over the past couple months. Initial holiday buildup in retailing proved disappointing and construction dropped after holding steady a month before. Further tugging away at the job numbers was the first sizable loss in aerospace since January. And an abnormally large reduction took place over the month in temporary help services. The rest of the economy was either unwilling or unable to make up the difference, causing little by way of uptick to an economy which has been drifting steadily since February.

Unemployment did nothing unusual. Washington's jobless rate jumped better than half a percentage point in November. Both the direction and the degree of change

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were typical for a time of year when the major resource-based industries drop seasonally. Owing to the fact these industries are located in the outlying areas, the level of joblessness stayed virtually unchanged in the major metropolitan centers but mounted sharply in the balance of state. Nonetheless, the state's overall jobless rate continued to track low by historical standards and to register well under the national average for what amounts to the second consecutive year.

What was significant in November was the fact that total nonfarm wage and salary employment finally dipped below a year ago for the first time since early-1983 when the state was just pulling out of the 1981-82 recession. Washington entered 1991 with a 70,000-worker net gain which rapidly deteriorated as the economy stalled. Weakness in construction and trade essentially trooped the downturn together with noticeably less growth in various services sectors. By and large, this simply mirrored what was taking place on the broader national scene. On the other hand, great portions of manufacturing have either held steady or shown only passing acknowledgement of the national recession and that phenomenon is unique to Washington State.

Enough With The Doomsayers

All the pieces are in place for a rebound of the national economy likely in the second quarter of 1992. Aggressive action on the part of the Federal Reserve over the past year has successfully pared interest rates to lows not seen since the early 1970s. It will take time for the market to fully respond, but two immediate beneficiaries stand out - housing and exports.

Both are major legs of Washington's economy. Housing moves most of lumber and wood products manufacturing. Lower interest rates coupled with falling property values throughout many parts of the nation have put single-family home ownership within reach of the greatest proportion of the population in over a decade. New home sales nationally have jumped 26 percent from their January 1991 trough, and existing home sales are up 15 percent over the same time period. In response, housing starts have increased 26

percent in the past 12 months and building permits are up nearly a quarter.

Likewise, exports are poised for a boost. A declining value of the dollar translates directly into greater purchasing power in the hands of foreign buyers. Already inflation-adjusted exports have risen 11 percent since February paced by double-digit gains in capital goods shipments. Washington is one of the most heavily export-oriented economies in the nation with fully a third of all manufacturing product shipped overseas. Even higher proportions of some major farm crops are sold in foreign markets. The handling and transport of international trade plays an important role in the state's transportation services industry. And the spinoff from foreign trade permeates much of the rest of the economy.

Finally, vigorous cost-cutting and lower interest rates have set the stage for major improvement in corporate earnings and cash flow leading to additional capital spending. As painful as the current spate of restructuring is in terms of job loss, the bottom line is one of cost containment and productivity growth in American industry. The means toward that end is heavy investment in plant and equipment. And Washington sits on the receiving line being primarily a producer of capital equipment - machinery and instruments, electronics, primary and fabricated metals, computer software, aircraft and other transportation equipment.

The national economy has yet to show significant signs of life. But the second and third quarters of 1991 posted positive growth of real Gross Domestic Product, statistically marking an end to the recession which began in July. Whether or not the economy finishes the year on an upbeat is anybody's guess. However, the pattern over the next several months will unquestionably bear the stamp "*made by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve.*"

LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Washington's jobless rate jumped in November from 5.7 percent to 6.3 percent of the workforce - the highest for the month in four years. Vancouver and the Central Puget Sound economies showed little change, but the balance of the state mounted sharply as the resource-based industries retrenched seasonally. The overall rate registered better than a full percentage point above the prior-year level of 5.2 percent and converged upon the national average at 6.6 percent for the month.

The state was tracking fully a percentage point below the national jobless rate as late as September. But as the economy has slowed, the divergence between the state and the nation has progressively narrowed. Certainly, there are vast portions of the state where the percentage of unemployed continues to be low by any historical standard. The Seattle PMSA and much of the surrounding area are a case in point. At the same time outlying areas (particularly those heavily dependent upon forest products) definitely show some fallout from the national recession.

Resident Civilian Labor Force
Employment and Unemployment in Washington State

	Nov 1991 *Preliminary*	Oct 1991 *Revised*	Nov 1990
Resident Civilian Labor Force	2,458,100	2,498,900	2,478,100
Employment	2,304,400	2,356,800	2,349,800
Unemployment	153,700	142,100	128,300
Unemployment Rate	6.3%	5.7%	5.2%
National Unemployment Rate	6.6%	6.4%	5.8%

Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.
Source: Employment Security Department; Bureau of Labor Statistics

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Total nonfarm wage and salary employment dropped over the month by 4,800 workers. The reduction was the biggest for November in five years and contrasted with a net *gain* of 9,000 on average from 1988 to 1990. Impacts stemming from a sluggish consumer sector converged with the usual heavy seasonal losses throughout the economy to pull employment down sharply in construction (-6,800) and services (3,100). All segments of construction were down: general building (1,400), public works (-1,900), and special trades (-3,600). Meanwhile, services suffered a heavy

blow with a 1,200-worker loss at temporary help agencies - the first sizable reduction for the sector for the month on record.

Understandably, demand for temporary personnel has both a seasonal and a cyclical dimension. Hiring tends to build through the year to a peak sometime in either late fall or early winter depending upon the precise timing requirements of business. But beyond the normal seasonal pattern, hiring accelerates during a period of economic expansion and, conversely, draws down sharply as the economy slows. There is immediate flexibility in cutting temporary help as opposed to dismissing full-time staff. And as a result, this industry over time has acted very much as a key barometer of the overall business pulse.

Seasonal Pluses

All was not off in November. Gains were reported in wholesale and retail trade (+2,100) and state and local government (+8,900). Both reflected seasonal upticks. Buildup of temporary help for the Christmas buying season impacted the former, drawing payrolls in retail trade up 3,700 over the month. The latter was split fairly evenly between additional staffing in education (+4,500) and temporary election help (+4,300).

Initial hiring for the holiday season essentially mirrored the degree of caution which has characterized the consumer sector throughout 1991. Job additions for the month were noticeably light. On average, between 5,000 and 7,000 workers hired into retailing in the month of November over the past five years. Nothing close to that occurred this year. Competition especially from discount and specialty stores has intensified with the recession. The fallout has been increasing market pressure on up-scale department stores, those very establishments which traditionally have provided the bulk of temporary holiday hiring.

Most Of Manufacturing Ebbs Lower

Payrolls in basic manufacturing fell 3,700 over the month. The loss, for the most part, centered in food products (-2,100) as the state's apple harvest came to a close.

Generally, the crop proved larger than expected, given the severity of weather conditions affecting both the winter and spring months. But delayed ripening bolstered the average size of the fruit and prices shot up owing to strong export demand. Processing employment for November looked normal.

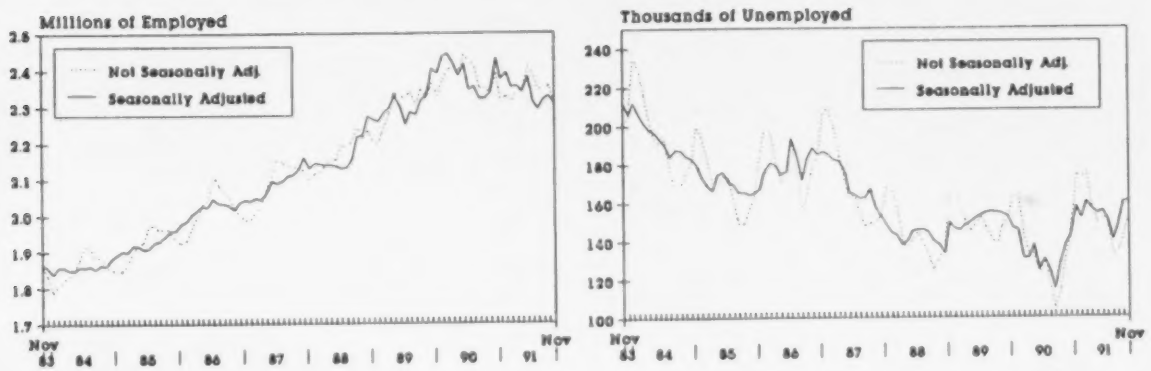
The same can be said for cutbacks in paper (-200) and lumber and wood products (-400). Both were affected by seasonal factors in November. On the other hand, machinery and equipment payrolls dropped by 300 and aerospace employment likewise fell by 300 over the month. Each of the latter resulted from factors other than seasonal and, in the case of aerospace, some structural impacts which are just now beginning to show up in the employment numbers. Military and space portions of the business have been squeezed recently by defense cuts. More is likely in the months ahead. And no longer is expansion on the commercial side serving to pick up the slack.

12-Month Growth Finally Heads South

Over the year, Washington's nonfarm employment was down 13,900 workers in November - the first year-to-year drop since 1983 when the state was just pulling out of the 1981-82 recession. The state entered 1991 with a 70,000-worker net increase which rapidly evaporated as the economy slowed. Construction (-11,200) and trade (-12,700) have led the shortfall, with manufacturing off a lesser 6,900. Ongoing strength at present remains centered basically in health services (+7,200) and state and local government (+15,000).

Both health and government are creatures of demographics more so than economics. Each responds in varying degrees to changes in the numbers and characteristics of the resident population, which in this case continues to rise at rates more than double the national average. In addition, an aging and more affluent population and a heightened awareness of issues relating to alcohol and drug abuse have intensified demand for basic health services and specialized clinical support.

Washington State Total Resident Employment and Unemployment
November 1983 - November 1991



Source: Employment Security Department

AREA TRENDS

Balance Of State Takes The Hit

Most population centers of the state showed higher unemployment in November than a month before. The only exceptions were no change in the Seattle PMSA (4.7 percent) and nearby Bremerton and Olympia MSAs (4.9 percent and 5.8 percent, respectively). On average, the metropolitan economies moved higher by four-tenths of one percentage point over the month from 5.4 percent to 5.8 percent of the workforce, up from 4.7 percent a year before. Bellingham (6.1 percent), Spokane (6.4 percent), Tacoma (6.3 percent), and Vancouver (6.5 percent) all hovered close to the statewide average. Any outsized differences were centered in the farm-dominated economies of Yakima (12.7 percent) and the Franklin County portion of the Tri-Cities (14.5 percent).

Meanwhile, the balance of the state hit the skids. The timber dependent counties saw unemployment mount from 8.7 percent in October to 9.6 percent in November and climbing. The rate registered a full percentage point higher than the year before. Those counties posting double-digit unemployment for the month included Grays Harbor (11.1 percent); Pacific (11.0 percent); Kittitas, Klickitat, and Lewis counties (10.6 percent, 10.9 percent, and 10.2

percent, respectively); and Skamania (18.9 percent). Joblessness in the agricultural economies of eastern Washington jumped to 8.8 percent in November.

Unemployment Rates by Geographic Areas
State of Washington

Areas	Nov 1991	Oct 1991	Nov 1990
Washington State Total	6.3%	5.7%	5.2%
Metropolitan Areas	5.8%	5.4%	4.7%
Log & Lumber Areas	9.6%	8.7%	8.6%
All Western WA Areas	5.5%	5.5%	4.5%
All Eastern WA Areas	8.8%	6.5%	7.8%

Source: Employment Security Department

INDUSTRY NOTES

Weyerhaeuser Pulls The Plug In Everett

Weyerhaeuser will officially close its Everett pulp mill at the end of March, affecting 285 employees. The mill has been in jeopardy for several years, according to company spokesmen, and the loss of several million dollars in 1991 marked the final blow. Further investment in the aged facility looked to be unwarranted given poor market conditions generally affecting the pulp and paper industry. Weyerhaeuser has two other operating pulp mills in Washington at Longview and Cosmopolis.

Skamania On The Ropes

The largest employer in Skamania County, Stevenson Co-Ply, is scheduled to throw in the towel at the end of January, idling 175 workers. Roughly 75 were laid off a year ago. Stevenson is a town of 1,150, and Skamania County has posted the highest unemployment rate of any county in the state in recent years. Restrictions on logging boosted wood costs above the price of plywood, according to a company statement. The firm was founded in 1953 and reorganized as co-op in 1956.

Hanford Could Gain Big

Under the Department of Energy's proposed budget, funding for environmental cleanup at Hanford and the other defense production sites across the county could be increased by a quarter to $5.5 billion in fiscal year 1993. The

White House statement indicated that spending in the next fiscal year, if approved, would be sufficient to meet the department's legal requirements under cleanup agreements with the various states and the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Of the $4.4 billion in funding for waste management and environmental cleanup in the current fiscal year, slightly more than $1 billion has been allocated to Hanford.

NATIONAL INDICATORS

Manufacturing Grinds To A Halt

The nation's manufacturing sector has stalled after rallying in the wake of the Gulf War and leading to a burst of euphoria that the recession had ended. Production at the nation's factories, mines, and utilities slumped sharply in virtually every major category in November. The Federal Reserve's index of industrial output fell 0.4 percent over the month following three months of basically no change. Overall capacity utilization also dropped to 79.1 percent from 79.6 percent in October.

Recession Pulls Down The Trade Deficit

The U.S. trade deficit dropped to the lowest level in nearly nine years in November, thanks to the recession's tight grip. Weak demand for imported goods slashed the deficit by 44 percent over the month to $3.57 billion - the smallest since March 1983. The Commerce Department reported that imports fell to $41.03 billion, overshadowing a small gain in exports to a record $37.46 billion.

Thaw Not Likely Till Spring

Meanwhile, the nation's chief economic forecasting gauge suffered its biggest drop in ten months in November. The Commerce Department's Index of Leading Indicators plunged 0.3 percent over the month - the worst since January. The index of 11 forward business barometers had been racing ahead earlier in the year, but slowed beginning in August.

Inflation Remains The One Bright Spot

Out of all this has come a halving in the rate of inflation. The overall consumer price index rose 0.4 percent in November with the core rate of inflation (excluding food and energy) climbing 0.3 percent. Over the year, the rate of increase measured 2.9 percent compared to 6.4 percent a year before.

Consumer Price Index
(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1982-1984 = 100)

	Indexes			% Change From	
U.S. City Average	Nov 91	Oct 91	Nov 90	Oct 91	Nov 90
	137.8	137.4	133.8	0.3%	3.0%
Seattle†	Jan-Jun 1991	Jul-Dec 1990	Jan-Jun 1990	Jul-Dec 1990	Jan-Jun 1990
	133.0	129.4	124.2	2.8%	7.1%

†The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties.
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Prepared by Dennis Fusco, Chief Economist

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers in Washington State, Place of Work[1]

In Thousands, Not Seasonally Adjusted

Industry	Nov 1991 (Prel)	Oct 1991 (Rev)	Nov 1990 (Rev)	Oct 1990 (Rev)	Numeric Change: Oct 1991 to Nov 1991	Numeric Change: Nov 1990 to Nov 1991
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	2,190.9	2,195.7	2,204.8	2,198.9	-4.8	-13.9
Manufacturing	363.2	366.9	370.1	372.7	-3.7	-6.9
Durable Goods	253.6	254.9	260.1	260.9	-1.3	-6.5
Lumber & Wood Products	37.1	37.5	39.5	40.5	-0.4	-2.4
Logging	8.9	9.2	10.0	10.3	-0.3	-1.1
Sawmills & Plywood	24.6	24.6	25.8	26.3	0.0	-1.2
Furniture & Fixtures	3.9	3.9	4.2	4.2	0.0	-0.3
Stone, Clay & Glass	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.7	-0.1	0.0
Primary Metals	12.0	12.1	12.9	12.9	-0.1	-0.9
Aluminum	8.5	8.5	8.8	8.9	0.0	-0.3
Fabricated Metals	12.6	12.8	12.5	12.7	-0.2	0.1
Industrial Machinery & Equipment	19.0	19.2	20.4	20.5	-0.2	-1.4
Computer & Office Equipment	6.2	6.3	6.5	6.4	-0.1	-0.3
Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment	11.9	12.0	11.7	11.7	-0.1	0.2
Transportation Equipment	129.4	129.7	130.5	129.9	-0.3	-1.1
Aircraft & Parts	116.7	117.0	116.6	115.9	-0.3	0.1
Instruments & Related	13.7	13.7	14.0	14.2	0.0	-0.3
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6.4	6.3	6.8	6.6	0.1	-0.4
Nondurable Goods	109.6	112.0	110.0	111.8	-2.4	-0.4
Food & Kindred Products	38.3	40.4	39.0	40.5	-2.1	-0.7
Preserved Fruits & Vegetables	13.9	15.8	13.8	15.4	-1.9	0.1
Textiles, Apparel & Leather	7.9	7.9	8.3	8.4	0.0	-0.4
Paper & Allied Products	17.6	17.8	17.7[2]	17.8[2]	-0.2	-0.1
Printing & Publishing	22.9	22.9	22.7	22.7	0.0	0.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	13.9	13.8	13.3	13.3	0.1	0.6
Petroleum, Coal & Plastics	9.0	9.2	9.0	9.1	-0.2	0.0
Mining & Quarrying	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.9	-0.1	-0.2
Construction	112.9	119.7	124.1	127.9	-6.8	-11.2
General Building Contractors	32.1	33.5	37.1	38.4	-1.4	-5.0
Heavy Construction, except Buildings	16.2	18.1	16.8	18.4	-1.9	-0.6
Special Trade Contractors	64.6	68.2	70.2	71.1	-3.6	-5.6
Transportation, Communications & Utilities	114.2	115.0	116.1	115.9	-0.8	-1.9
Transportation	79.3	80.0	81.0	80.9	-0.7	-1.7
Trucking & Warehousing	32.1	33.1	33.2	33.1	-1.0	-1.1
Water Transportation	9.9	9.2	9.7	9.6	0.7	0.2
Transportation by Air	15.9	15.9	15.8	16.0	0.0	0.1
Communications	24.8	25.0	25.4	25.3	-0.2	-0.6
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	10.1	10.0	9.7	9.7	0.1	0.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade	519.6	517.5	532.3	528.4	2.1	-12.7
Wholesale Trade	127.9	129.5	130.9	132.3	-1.6	-3.0
Retail Trade	391.7	388.0	401.4	396.1	3.7	-9.7
General Merchandise	39.7	37.8	41.2	38.4	1.9	-1.5
Food Stores	63.8	63.9	65.8	66.1	-0.1	-2.0
Eating & Drinking	142.5	143.4	144.6[2]	145.2	-0.9	-2.1
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	116.8	117.7	118.3	118.4	-0.9	-1.5
Finance	51.2	51.0	51.7	51.6	0.2	-0.5
Services	529.6	532.7	525.5	525.5	-3.1	4.1
Hotels & Lodging	25.0	25.6	26.9	26.9	-0.6	-1.9
Personal Services	21.2	21.2	21.8	21.9	0.0	-0.6
Business Services	88.4	90.2	89.5	89.9	-1.8	-1.1
Health Services	158.9	158.4	151.7	151.9	0.5	7.2
Educational Services	25.9	25.4	24.9	24.3	0.5	1.0
Social Services	37.1	37.1	35.3	35.1	0.0	1.8
Engineering & Management Services	48.4	48.4	46.8	46.6	0.0	1.6
Government	431.0	422.5	414.6	406.2	8.5	16.4
Federal	73.1	73.5	71.7	72.3	-0.4	1.4
State	125.8	125.0	119.1	119.2	0.8	6.7
State Education	66.6	65.4	63.4	63.0	1.2	3.2
Local	232.1	224.0	223.8	214.7	8.1	8.3
Local Education	124.1	120.8	118.6	115.7	3.3	5.5
Workers in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.3	0.0	-1.1

[1]Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

[2]Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management disputes.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis

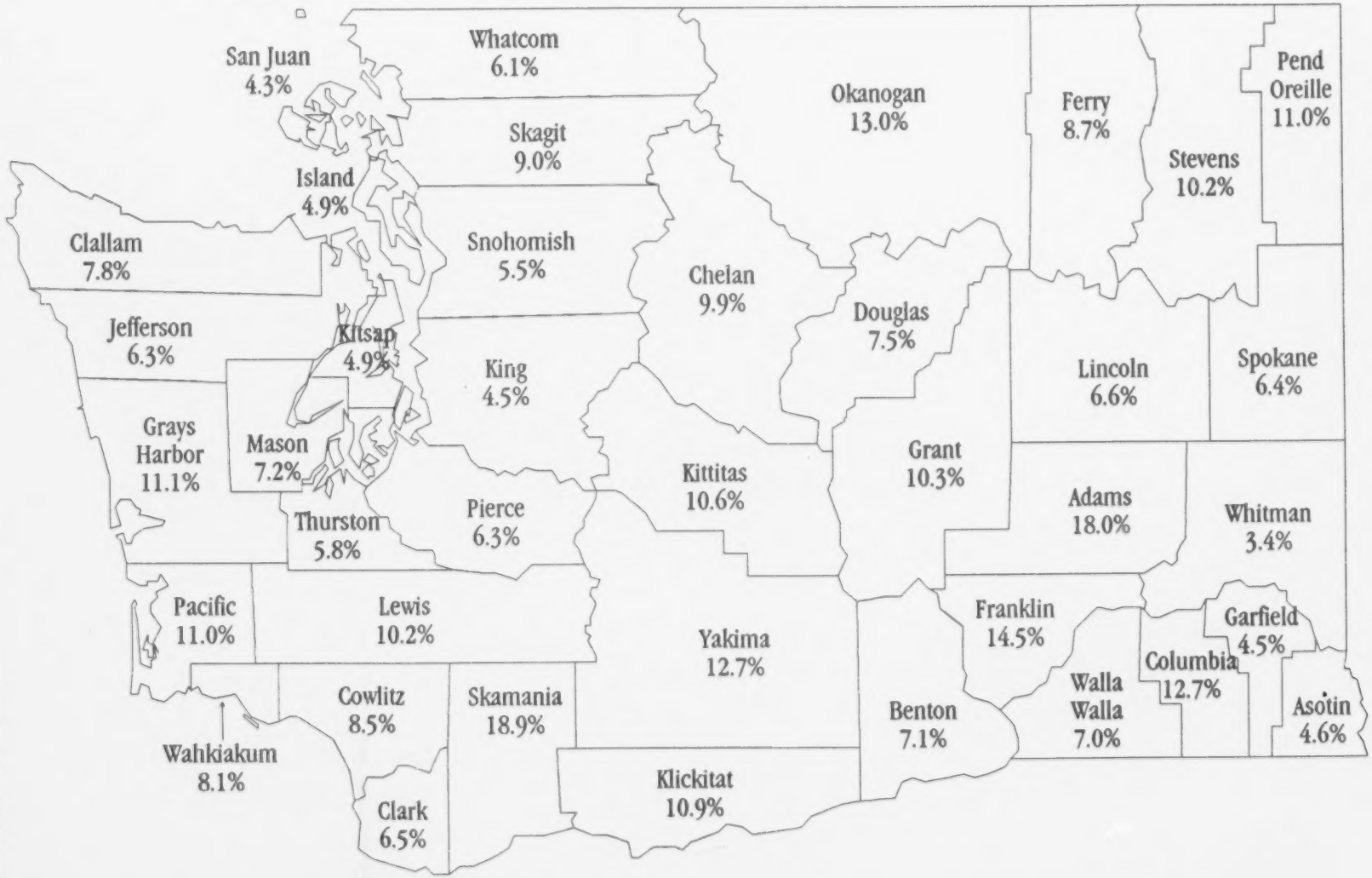
Resident Labor Force and Employment in Washington State and Labor Market Areas

Date: 1/7/92
Benchmark: 1990

	November 1991 Preliminary†				October 1991 Revised†				November 1990 Revised†			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Washington State Total	2,458,100	2,304,400	153,700	6.3	2,498,900	2,356,800	142,100	5.7	2,478,100	2,349,800	128,300	5.2
Bellingham MSA	69,300	65,100	4,200	6.1	69,700	65,900	3,800	5.5	68,600	65,100	3,500	5.1
Bremerton MSA	83,200	79,100	4,100	4.9	83,500	79,400	4,100	4.9	82,300	78,500	3,800	4.6
Olympia MSA	82,400	77,600	4,800	5.8	84,800	79,800	5,000	5.9	83,200	78,700	4,500	5.4
Seattle PMSA	1,115,800	1,063,400	52,400	4.7	1,115,200	1,063,200	52,000	4.7	1,123,800	1,083,600	40,200	3.6
King County ‡	879,700	840,200	39,500	4.5	879,900	840,000	39,900	4.5	886,600	856,200	30,400	3.4
Snohomish County ‡	236,200	223,200	13,000	5.5	235,300	223,200	12,100	5.1	237,400	227,500	9,900	4.2
Spokane MSA	172,500	161,500	11,000	6.4	171,700	161,500	10,200	5.9	171,700	162,700	9,000	5.2
Tacoma PMSA	244,700	229,200	15,500	6.3	247,000	231,700	15,300	6.2	253,700	240,900	12,800	5.0
Tri-Cities MSA	71,900	65,500	6,400	8.9	74,700	69,800	4,900	6.6	71,000	65,200	5,800	8.2
Benton County ‡	55,200	51,300	3,900	7.1	58,100	54,600	3,500	6.0	54,700	51,100	3,600	6.6
Franklin County ‡	16,600	14,200	2,400	14.5	16,600	15,200	1,400	8.4	16,400	14,200	2,200	13.4
Vancouver PMSA	126,100	117,900	8,200	6.5	127,200	119,200	8,000	6.3	128,000	121,600	6,400	5.0
Yakima MSA	93,200	81,400	11,800	12.7	105,500	97,300	8,200	7.8	94,200	83,200	11,000	11.7
Adams	7,660	6,280	1,380	18.0	7,970	7,450	520	6.5	6,790	5,960	830	12.2
Asotin	8,940	8,530	410	4.6	9,510	9,110	400	4.2	9,340	8,950	390	4.2
Clallam	22,960	21,160	1,800	7.8	23,380	21,770	1,610	6.9	23,870	21,830	2,040	8.5
Columbia	1,260	1,100	160	12.7	1,270	1,130	140	11.0	1,260	1,080	180	14.3
Cowlitz	37,740	34,550	3,190	8.5	38,970	35,540	3,430	8.8	38,670	35,880	2,790	7.2
Ferry	3,120	2,850	270	8.7	3,140	2,920	220	7.0	3,200	2,980	220	6.9
Garfield	890	850	40	4.5	950	910	40	4.2	910	870	40	4.4
Grant	26,550	23,810	2,740	10.3	28,570	26,600	1,970	6.9	25,710	23,050	2,660	10.3
Grays Harbor	25,710	22,850	2,860	11.1	25,550	22,840	2,710	10.6	26,160	23,420	2,740	10.5
Island	22,020	20,950	1,070	4.9	21,970	20,940	1,030	4.7	21,610	20,720	890	4.1
Jefferson	8,720	8,170	550	6.3	8,850	8,300	550	6.2	8,760	8,250	510	5.8
Kittitas	12,700	11,360	1,340	10.6	13,060	11,950	1,110	8.5	11,990	11,050	940	7.8
Klickitat	7,880	7,020	860	10.9	7,990	7,340	650	8.1	7,600	6,800	800	10.5
Lewis	22,960	20,620	2,340	10.2	23,010	20,450	2,560	11.1	24,390	22,360	2,030	8.3
Lincoln	3,920	3,660	260	6.6	4,090	3,880	210	5.1	3,970	3,760	210	5.3
Mason	15,260	14,160	1,100	7.2	16,440	15,180	1,260	7.7	15,330	14,500	830	5.4
Okanogan	16,970	14,770	2,200	13.0	22,320	20,810	1,510	6.8	16,810	14,830	1,980	11.8
Pacific	7,110	6,330	780	11.0	7,160	6,390	770	10.8	7,490	6,730	760	10.1
Pend Oreille	3,100	2,760	340	11.0	3,200	2,850	350	10.9	3,190	2,790	400	12.5
San Juan	5,760	5,510	250	4.3	6,030	5,810	220	3.6	5,720	5,520	200	3.5
Skagit	40,140	36,520	3,620	9.0	40,480	37,320	3,160	7.8	39,560	36,500	3,060	7.7
Skamania	2,120	1,720	400	18.9	2,140	1,740	400	18.7	2,110	1,820	290	13.7
Stevens	11,320	10,160	1,160	10.2	11,450	10,400	1,050	9.2	11,090	9,990	1,100	9.9
Wahkiakum	1,230	1,130	100	8.1	1,270	1,140	130	10.2	1,170	1,050	120	10.3
Walla Walla	22,980	21,380	1,600	7.0	23,230	22,040	1,190	5.1	23,180	21,920	1,260	5.4
Wenatchee Labor Area	41,680	37,880	3,800	9.1	48,960	46,130	2,830	5.8	43,170	39,620	3,550	8.2
Chelan County ‡	27,870	25,110	2,760	9.9	32,620	30,580	2,040	6.3	28,670	26,260	2,410	8.4
Douglas County ‡	13,810	12,770	1,040	7.5	16,340	15,550	790	4.8	14,490	13,350	1,140	7.9
Whitman	18,290	17,660	630	3.4	18,660	18,120	540	2.9	18,510	18,000	510	2.8

†Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. ‡Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

November 1991 Unemployment Rates
State of Washington = 6.3%



Estimated Average Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing and of Nonsupervisory Workers in Nonmanufacturing Activities, Washington State

	Preliminary November Production Workers & Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		Nov 91	Oct 91	Nov 90	Nov 91	Oct 91	Nov 90	Nov 91	Oct 91	Nov 90
Total Manufacturing Industries†	211,187	$543.84	$544.56	$519.16	39.9	40.1	39.6	$13.63	$13.58	$13.11
Selected Manufacturing Industries										
Lumber and Wood Products	30,512	$478.80	$464.01	$435.61	39.9	38.7	37.2	$12.00	$11.99	$11.71
Primary Metal Industries	9,404	$596.49	$590.79	$573.95	41.8	41.9	42.8	$14.27	$14.10	$13.41
Fabricated Metal Products	10,026	$530.33	$526.24	$486.02	41.4	41.6	40.3	$12.81	$12.65	$12.06
Machinery	19,028	$441.28	$434.51	$443.15	39.4	38.9	41.3	$11.20	$11.17	$10.73
Food and Kindred Products	27,885	$378.23	$399.38	$358.54	36.9	39.7	36.4	$10.25	$10.06	$9.85
Chemical and Allied Products	4,515	$723.98	$721.49	$665.92	43.3	43.1	42.2	$16.72	$16.74	$15.78
Transportation Equipment	56,145	$712.65	$712.14	$681.18	41.7	41.5	42.1	$17.09	$17.16	$16.18
Selected Nonmanufacturing Industries										
Construction	76,908	$665.31	$696.68	$637.63	36.9	38.3	36.9	$18.03	$18.19	$17.28
Wholesale and Retail Trade (Includes eating and drinking establishments)	461,433	$300.17	$297.99	$283.66	31.3	31.4	30.6	$9.59	$9.49	$9.27

†Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not exactly reflect the official US Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

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